

REMARKS

The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated January 11, 2006. Claims 10-16, 21-22, 24-33, 35-42, 44-57, and 59-64 are pending. Claims 10-16 and 21-22 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 24, 33, 35, 42, 44-45, 47, 51, and 55-57 have been amended in this response. Claims 1-9, 17-20, 23, 34, 43, 58, and 65-74 have been canceled without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer. No new matter is believed to be added by these amendments. In addition, unless a passage of an amendment is specifically discussed below in connection with one or more cited references, Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to the claims should be constructed as being submitted merely to clarify the invention rather than as a limitation submitted to overcome a cited reference.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indicated allowability of dependent Claims 34-36, 43-47, 51-56, and 58-62. On page 9 of the Office Action, the Examiner notes that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the rejected base claims and any intervening claims. In response, Applicants have amended independent Claim 24 to include all of the limitations of canceled Claim 34. Applicants have also amended independent Claim 42 to include all of the limitations of canceled Claim 43. Further, Applicants have amended independent Claim 57 to include all of the limitations of canceled Claim 58. Therefore, currently amended independent Claims 24, 42, and 57 and the dependent claims that depend from them are in condition for allowance.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

Claims 33, 59-62, and 68 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection to the extent that it is applied to the claims as amended.

Claim 33 was rejected because it recites the limitation “the amplifier” without proper antecedent basis. Claim 33 has been amended to replace the limitation “the amplifier” with the correct limitation “the oscillator,” which derives its antecedent basis from Claim 31 from which it depends.

The Office Action states that Claims 59-62 were rejected because they recite the limitation “the number of pages” without proper antecedent basis. The Applicants can only assume that the Examiner meant to state that Claims 59-62 were rejected. In response, Claim 57, from which Claims 59-62 depend, has been amended, in part, to read “A system for fluid level management in a media coating system **used to coat a plurality of pages of media**, wherein...” Thus, amended Claim 57 provides the proper antecedent basis for the limitation “the number of pages” in Claims 59-62.

Claim 68 has been rejected under U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as well. Claim 68 has been canceled without prejudice.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 9, 17-18, 23, 42, 57, and 65-70 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,428,157 (the “157 patent”), in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,636,814 (the “814 patent”). Claims 1, 9, 17-18, 23, and 65-70 have been canceled. Claims 42 and 57 have been amended as discussed herein above and are in condition for allowance.

Claims 2-4, 6-8, 19-20, 24-26, 28-30, and 31-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the '157 patent, in view of the '814 patent, taken in further view of Japanese Patent No. JP 05131646 (the "'646 patent"). Claims 2-4, 6-8, and 19-20 have been canceled without prejudice. Claim 24 has been amended as discussed herein above and is condition for allowance. Claims 25-26, 28-30, and 31-33 depend from Claim 24.

Claims 5 and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the '157 patent, in view of the '814 patent and the '646 patent, taken in further view of U.S. Patent 5,583,544 (the "'544 patent"). Claim 5 has been canceled without prejudice and Claim 27 depends from Claim 24, which has been amended as discussed herein above and is in condition for allowance.

Claims 48-50 and 63-64 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the '157 patent, in view of the '814 patent, taken in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,024,428 (the "'428 patent"). Claims 48-50 depend from amended Claim 42, which has been amended as discussed herein above and is in condition for allowance. Claims 63-64 depend from amended Claim 57, which has also been amended as discussed herein above and is also in condition for allowance.

Claims 20, 37, and 41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the '157 patent, in view of the '814 patent and the '646 patent, taken in further view of U.S. Patent 4,806,847 (the "'847 patent"). Claim 20 has been canceled without prejudice. Claims 37 and 41 depend from amended Claim 24, which, as discussed herein above, is in condition for allowance.

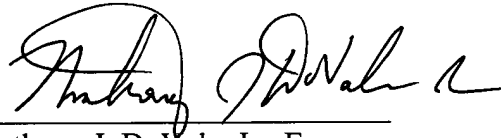
Pursuant to the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the pending application is believed to be warranted. The Examiner is invited and encouraged to directly

contact the undersigned if such contact may enhance the efficient prosecution of this application to issue.

It is believed that no fee is due with this submission. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 14-0629.

Respectfully submitted,

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4/11/2006

Date